

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

Released: July 25, 2011  
Week ending: July 24, 2011  
Volume: 17-11

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**Weather:** Most areas in the State received a little precipitation early in the week which was followed by warmer and drier conditions. Low temperatures ranged from 33 degrees in Christmas Valley to 53 degrees in Medford. High temperatures ranged from 66 degrees in Crescent City to 101 degrees in Rome. The average temperature across the State of 63.8 degrees was four degrees below normal. The average precipitation level was only 0.12 inches above normal this week with an average across the State of 0.25 inches. There were 34 of the 43 stations that reported a measurable amount of precipitation. Roseburg reported the highest amount of precipitation of 1.09 inches, followed by Grants Pass with 0.71 inches.

**Field Crops:** Klamath County reported a second cutting of hay, and Jackson County was ready for a second cutting of alfalfa. There was concern in the Willamette Valley for mold and sprout. Winter wheat fields looked good in Central Oregon, but there was some evidence of stripe rust. Clover mites had caused damage in Deschutes County. Sherman County reported grain crops were too damp to harvest, and that it has been the fewest number of bushels ever harvested for the County in July.

**Vegetables:** Vegetable crops were doing well with the warmer temperatures and precipitation. Weeding and cultivation still needed to be done. Turnips had been harvested in Linn/Benton counties with reported low yields. Squash, cucumbers, and tomatoes were finally growing in Washington County. Late planted sweet corn had caught up to early planted sweet corn.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Orchard crops remained about two weeks behind normal developmental stages in Yamhill County. Growers were adjusting insect control sprays accordingly. Douglas County reported much more infestation in cherry and berry crops by the Spotted Wing Drosophila. Rain cracked many cherries causing substantial damage to some cherry orchards. Cherry harvest was well underway in the lower Hood River Valley. Hand thinning of apples and routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the lower Hood River Valley. Grapes were forming quickly and plentifully in Josephine County. Strawberry season was late in Linn County and Benton County, but strawberry harvest was winding down in Washington County. Raspberries and blackberries were being harvested. Blueberries were turning blue in Lane County and being harvested in Washington County and Josephine County. Fruit crops in Jackson County were a bit late; quality looked good but quantity may be down this year.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Greenhouses continued summer cleanup and fall planting will begin soon. Most plants have been sold and low hoop houses were removed from new starts. Nurseries continued busy with new starts, watering and feeding of current stock.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Livestock were being moved to irrigated pastures or higher elevations where available. Summer weather continued to reduce dryland range and pasture quality. Livestock were still in good condition.

**Soil Moisture - Week Ending 07/24/11**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	34	58	2
Subsoil	2	28	65	5

**Crop Condition - Week Ending 07/24/11**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	3	17	60	20
Spring wheat	0	1	17	61	21
Barley	0	0	25	55	20
Corn	0	1	28	70	1
Range and pasture	6	9	27	49	9

**Crop Progress - Week Ending 07/24/11**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, first cutting	98	94	100	100
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	15	6	64	77
Winter wheat harvested	7	2	18	37
Spring wheat headed	86	75	97	99
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.2	6.2	6.9	6.6

## Western Oregon

**CLACKAMAS:** First week of summer temperatures, one month late. Last grass hay cut this week. Meadowfoam was harvested this week, tall fescue was swathed, and perennial ryegrass was going down.

**DOUGLAS:** Some significant rain fell early in the week keeping people out of the fields for a couple days. The rain and cool temperatures continued to minimize stress on local crops but heat was needed to help accelerate crop development. The County continued to see most crops about 2-3 weeks behind normal maturation. Farmers also saw much more infestation in cherry and berry crops by the Spotted Wing Drosophila. Homeowner and u-pick crop operations were being hurt the most by this vinegar fly.

**JACKSON:** We had some rain the early part of the week. It was a good shower, but the warm days and evening breezes soon dried things up. Temperatures were about 20 degrees cooler than normal to start the week and some rain fell on second cutting hay. The second half of the week warmed up closer to normal. Second cutting alfalfa was ready to be cut. All grain field crops were at least 1 to 2 weeks late because of the wet spring. Barley should be nearing harvest. Fruit crops were also a bit late. They look good, but may be a lighter crop this year. Vegetable crops really liked the rain showers we had. There was still a lot of weeding and cultivation to be done. Greenhouses were in clean-up stages, and will soon be starting plants for fall. Nurseries were working on new starts, and keeping stock on hand watered and fed. Most all livestock were now on irrigated ground, or had been moved to higher ranges. Dry ground pastures were dried up and not much forage left. The rain had some help, but the sun dried things quite fast. Local farmers markets were getting busy, but garden crops are a bit late this year. This was County fair week so lots of time was put into fair activities.

**JOSEPHINE:** Overnight temperatures were in the 40's - 60's. Daytime temperatures were in the 70's - 90's with some gusty winds. There were trace amounts of precipitation for three mornings, and one morning with 1/2 inch overnight. There was only moderate fire danger still in our area. Watering and weeding were common activities this week. Harvesting of summer squash, tomatoes, and onions was going on.

Blueberries were also being harvested. Grapes were forming quickly and plentifully.

**LANE:** Blueberries were turning blue. The blackberry crop looked to be very large this year. Spotted wing drosophila was found in raspberries. Rain split 50% of the cherries.

**LINN/BENTON:** With the summer rains farmers here in the Willamette Valley were feeling stressed. Most of the grass crops were cut and lying on the ground. Farmers reported some mold in crops and were worried about sprout. The only crop harvested at this time was turnips, and it has been reported that the yield was very poor. Strawberry season was late. Many farmers were already reporting some loss to the corn crop.

**WASHINGTON:** Conditions this past week will likely result in sprout in some Willamette Valley wheat fields. Susceptibility increases throughout dough development in the kernel (Feeks 11.2) and is maximized at harvest maturity (Feekes 11.4). Goetze is likely more vulnerable than Tubbs 06 due to its early maturing behavior. Crop growth and maturity in Washington County is generally 5-10 days behind parts of the South Valley. Location in the valley, wheat variety, and the quantity of rainfall will determine the percentage of pre-harvest sprout that may occur in wheat fields. Most tall fescue had been swathed and crimson clover harvest had begun. Crimson clover yields were good, but may have quality problems due to rain. Late planted sweet corn had caught up with early planted corn, which may cause harvest problems for the processors. Most of the grass hay was in sheds. Most crops were done being planted and were up and starting to grow well. Sweet corn was doing well with the rain, sun, and warmer temperatures. Squash, cucumbers, and tomatoes were finally growing. Strawberries were winding down. Raspberries, blackberries, and blueberries were being harvested. Greenhouses had sold most of their plants. Low hoop houses were removed from new starts. Ranges were drying and grass withering. High temperature of 86.0 degrees and a low of 43 degrees. No appreciable rainfall.

**YAMHILL:** Orchard crops remained about two weeks behind normal developmental stages. Growers were adjusting insect control sprays accordingly.

## Eastern Oregon

**CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON:** Some alfalfa fields were at early bud stage in Jefferson County this week. Winter wheat fields looked excellent to good, but there was evidence of stripe rust that was controlled by fungicides or adult plant resistance in many of the fields. The winter wheat fields started to turn the week before. Some spring wheat fields were turning color. Portions of grass hay fields had re-growth where clover mites had caused damage in Deschutes County. The stunting and the killing of grasses was evident. There are insecticides labeled to control winter grain mite, but nothing labeled to control clover mite.

**HOOD RIVER:** Relatively cool temperatures with intermittent rain showers early in the week gave way to warm, dry, summer conditions by the weekend. The rain caused substantial damage to some cherry orchards. Cherry harvest was well underway in the lower valley. Hand thinning of apples and routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the valley.

**KLAMATH:** More warm weather during the week. Potatoes were still blooming and some grain was turning. A few fields of grain have been harvested for hay. Some second cutting hay had been cut.

**SHERMAN:** Still waiting for warm dry weather. The County had rain early this week ranging from a third to a half inch, which put a stop to any ideas of harvest, but made some plumper wheat kernels in the southern 2/3 of the county. Grain samples tested at mid-week came in at 16% moisture plus, too damp to harvest. Expect more to be taken Friday and Saturday, and suspect somebody will be able to get going. This will be the fewest number of bushels ever harvested in July for Sherman County.

**WASCO:** Rain on July 18 and 19 caused some rain cracking in cherries. One or two rain crack susceptible varieties showed the most damage, but rain resistant varieties such as Regina and Skeena showed relatively little cracking. Late varieties such as Sweetheart escaped most of the damage due to their later maturity. Harvest continued with little delay.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 24, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria	47	73	60	+0	74	+4	0.15	-0.06	1	82.66	17.80	127	220
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	51	67	60	+2	70	+11	0.17	0.10	2	55.13	-2.71	95	202
Crescent City	47	66	59	+1	65	+9	0.27	0.20	2	64.77	0.61	101	155
Florence	45	73	59	-2	68	-2	-	-0.14	-	80.54	5.59	107	206
North Bend	48	70	61	+2	77	+9	0.07	0.00	1	47.98	-14.27	77	150
Tillamook	46	73	61	+3	80	+20	0.08	-0.22	1	80.46	-6.13	93	201
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	52	89	66	-2	112	-5	0.17	0.05	1	51.27	11.31	128	192
Corvallis	52	88	65	-1	108	-4	0.07	0.00	2	45.82	4.12	110	193
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	48	92	63	-1	95	+1	0.18	0.04	2	99.47	33.39	151	204
Eugene	47	90	66	-3	110	-16	0.05	-0.02	2	39.89	-8.27	83	155
Hillsboro	43	86	63	-4	90	-22	0.05	-0.02	3	39.75	3.39	109	180
McMinnville	47	88	65	-2	106	-8	0.01	-0.06	1	44.49	2.12	105	176
Portland	49	86	66	-3	117	-16	0.05	-0.06	2	47.24	12.17	135	181
Salem	51	90	66	-1	115	-4	-	-0.09	-	47.67	9.36	124	170
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	51	95	66	-7	117	-37	0.71	0.67	3	41.91	11.45	138	150
Medford	53	97	71	-4	146	-20	0.48	0.44	1	21.92	3.65	120	115
Roseburg	51	92	67	-3	123	-10	1.09	1.02	2	38.39	6.39	120	163
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	42	83	62	-5	88	-29	0.07	0.00	1	17.78	4.54	134	136
Echo <sup>8</sup>	43	95	69	-6	133	-31	-	-0.03	-	12.63	4.14	149	120
Heppner	44	86	65	-6	108	-32	0.02	-0.05	1	18.57	5.42	141	129
Hermiston	46	96	69	-5	134	-30	-	-0.03	-	13.05	4.56	154	115
Madras <sup>8</sup>	44	91	63	-6	91	-31	0.65	0.58	3	11.28	1.48	115	112
Moro	44	86	63	-6	93	-35	0.34	0.30	2	14.91	4.33	141	103
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	42	91	62	-6	85	-34	0.11	0.09	4	46.19	16.03	153	172
Pendleton	47	94	68	-7	129	-38	-	-0.07	-	17.70	6.28	155	128
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	44	91	63	-6	91	-31	0.65	0.58	3	11.28	1.48	115	112
The Dalles	51	99	70	+3	139	+20	0.35	0.30	2	14.99	3.05	126	114
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	38	85	60	-5	74	-24	0.45	0.38	2	17.56	2.18	114	107
Bend	40	88	60	-6	68	-30	0.32	0.25	1	7.80	-3.21	71	54
Burns	37	93	63	-5	92	-27	0.01	-0.06	1	15.09	5.89	164	123
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	33	90	61	-9	78	-56	0.11	0.04	2	9.88	-1.80	85	128
Klamath Falls	40	86	61	-8	82	-47	0.28	0.21	1	10.58	-2.22	83	84
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	40	86	62	-7	82	-47	0.49	0.42	3	13.26	0.46	104	114
Lakeview <sup>8</sup>	39	86	61	-8	80	-45	-	-0.07	-	15.81	0.80	105	126
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	37	88	62	-7	86	-43	0.17	0.10	1	13.69	0.89	107	115
Redmond	38	92	60	-7	71	-45	0.53	0.46	2	11.20	3.28	141	88
Worden <sup>8</sup>	38	85	60	-9	71	-58	0.29	0.22	2	12.35	-0.45	96	99
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	36	96	63	-5	91	-29	-	-0.08	-	13.21	3.42	135	125
Joseph	46	84	62	+2	84	+7	0.08	-0.06	2	15.88	-7.68	67	130
La Grande	39	93	65	-6	106	-34	0.03	-0.05	1	17.97	1.59	110	138
Imbler <sup>8</sup>	38	95	64	-5	97	-22	0.01	-0.09	1	21.95	-0.51	98	150
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	52	98	73	-5	164	-26	-	0.00	-	12.04	2.86	131	98
Rome	40	101	69	-5	133	-28	-	-0.07	-	14.31	6.59	185	101

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>4</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.